might know exactly where Miss Tsing and closed the door behind him.

ture was significant.

polite note suggesting that he sell; So Toptit strode along as though to at it, removed the lock, lifted it, and guest's activities, and Toptit did not

a poet, however."

"Business has nothing to sagely, "but the romance of business has a good deal to do with the business of romance, if you get my mean-

"That," said Crayton, coarsely, "is because you're a poet and a fool,

Tomtit! A stiff silence followed. The boys discreetly vanished. We all thought that Toptit had been goaded far enough by Crayton, and we secretly hoped there would be a knockdown and a scandal, so that we could kick Crayton out of the club.

Toptit only smiled, and patted his dress tie with an air of approval. He quite ignored the "Tomtit" which Crayton invariably flung at him.

"My good Crayton," he said pleasantly, "you don't like me. Why?" Crayton glared savagely at him.

"I'll tell you why! Because you've come to China a green cub and are running wild up and down the coast that's why! You and your poetry and your dashed nonsense-it'll ruin business for the rest of us!"

"Hope so," said Toptit sweetly. "It won't ruin my business, though! You can't make friends among Chinese gentlemen by eulogizing their treasures in verse; I can. You go around buying jewels ard paintings and things with money! I buy 'em with money plus poetry, which means a lot more to an impoverished classical scholar."

"All bull!" growled Crayton, getting red. "You and your classical

Toptit regarded him with a maddening suavity.

"Ah!" he said, putting a singular meaning into the word. "Ah! Let me tell you something. I'm off for Fuchow in the morning, to get that screen from the old mandarin Wing."

AT this, Crayton came bouncing out of his chair. His hand slipped toward his arm ot, and for an instant I thought he meant to shoot Toptit. Rank murdes was in his eyes. Then he mastered himself, and stood there trembling with fury.

"Look here!" His voice was thick and hoarse. "I've been after that screen for a year. I mean to get it I have an order for it. It's mine! If you butt into my affairs, I'll run you out of China! Understand that?"

Toptit, who was father lanky, but singularly graceful and alert, b mockingly from his hips. That bow should have warned Crayton, for few men can manage it aright, and those few are dangerous.

"Thank you, my dear Crayton." he answered, his wide and homely mouth transfigured by a smile of genuine pleasure. "I acept the challenge gladly! I return your verbal gauntlet with one small warning: Don' forget that your wife lives in Chi-

Crayton rocked on his feet as though beneath a blow. His heavy, brutally dominant face became mottled, then was overspread by a mortal pallor. What the words means, he did not know; but he knew. With a single virulent oath, he turned on his heel and left the clab.

I buttonholed Toptit in one corner, and I was careful not to call him Tomtit by mistake. "Half a mo', old man! You don't

realize Crayton's ability, I'm afraid. He's a brute to have for an enemy. What's that about his wife in Chi cago?" Toptit regarded me, and there was

a peculiar shadow in his wide gray

curtly. "What'd you do in my place?" "Leave China tomorrow," I answered with sober emphasis. "I mean t! Crayton is wealthy. He is agent for several big dealers back home also for a number of millionaire Jap clients. He sends out more antiques and museum pieces than the rest of you chaps combined. He has influ-

"Ah!" said Toptit with an- inane "But don't forget that I'm a oet! Thanks, old man. Thanks and all that. Now I must be off."

I watched him go from the club and regretfally shook my head. He syce propping one foot on a gnarled was rather new in China: # felt that if he interfered with Cron's affairs he would be murdered. You may think that is stretching it a bit; but if you know anything about the scarcity of antiques in China, the lealousy and enmity and crime behind the securing of these pretty objects sold on Fifth averue for small fortunes-if you know about this, you'll know that I am not exaggerating.

Fukien, was a survival of the impe- indemnity provision, and one of these rial regime. He clung to its tradi- yellow men lived in Fuchow. He was tions of art and concubines and ruth- a fraternity brother of Toptit. You ess ways; he was not old, but he was will observe that Toptit exercised quite poor. All he had left was his some sagacity in business affairs. family collection of art, and once

London, and was an educated gentlewn people. Every agent and dealer shaking hands with a spectacled and in China was on the qui vive to get delighted young Chinaman. something from Wing's treasures.

You must understand that there are who value only color; others supply wholesale bazaar dealers: the aristocrats of the profession seek really artistic things, museum pieces. Under this last head fell Crayton, who was a business man, and Toptit, who was

Toptit naturally suggested Tomtit and "Little Tomtit" had been fastened one the poet from the first. Calmly oblivious, he went his way and created chaos among his competitors. He had his own methods of doing business, and they were apt to be surprising at times. He came to Fukien Regular bully, isn't he?" with letters of introduction to Wing from an obscure Tientsin poet-painter, and the mandarin welcomed him with grave courtesy. There was no mention of business, though each man knew that the other man understood

perfectly. Immediately he came into the house Toptit perceived that something was terribly amiss. The servants were frightened. Wing himself, a stately man with wispy beard and mustaches wore an air of preoccupation. The tea was inferior in quality. Host and guest, however, ignored all this and city; it's a Christian affair, you know.

exchanged many compliments. At dinner Toptit saw the screen for which he had some. It was the only object in the foom, a screen of three panels. The center panel held a painting on brown silk, showing oom or syce with his horse be neath a gnarled tree. The two side or tomorrow old Wing will receive a spoil everything.

of the club, at Tientsin, at bearing only the vermilion seals of the Chang Mow screen to Crayton. pass the rooming house. Opposite the fired at the door.

"You will observe that there are is held prisoner; he might know exactly six ideographs," said Wing compla-San Mow—Old Syce and Traveling he do? Just nothing. That's straight Horse. The others give the name of the artist, Chang Mow or Jung Mohis not remembered. The entire value walk into our city and shoot me, for inof the picture, Mr. Toptit, lies in-"In the red robe of the old syce," approval.

stance, then go back to his own quarter-and remain untouched!" said Toptit. The mandarin beamed | Toptit sucked at his pipe for a moment, regarding his informant nar-



IN THE CHAIR WAS TIED A CHINESE GIRL, WHOSE EYES ROUNDED LARGELY UPON HIM.

gold-red paint has been lost for two centuries. "It's the most beautiful red I ever marry Miss Tsing in two months." saw in my life," said Toptit sincerely. is magnificent! I suppose it is very valuable?"

Wing.

"Ah! It is worth double that. Unfortunately, I don't suppose any ordinary dealer could offer more than a "Your friend Crayton is in said the yellow man abruptly." "The devil! San here do you thousand dollars."

Wing understood this bid perfectly, and smiled his bland smile. "I would not sell that screen to any

Nippon man for a million yen," he said. For a brief instant his lips clenched into a thin, cruel smile. One kind of a lover are you?" gathered that he did not like the Japanese. "I have been informed that this screen was going to Japan in

This sounded like Crayton, who acted for a number of millionaire clients in Japan, where almost any price will be paid for Chinese works of art that are rare and authentic. "The Nagasaki Herald refused to

publish some of my verses," said Toptit reflectively. "Ever since I have been prejudiced against Japan. Well. this screen is wonderful! I can imagine old Chang Mow sitting on a bridge and sketching this scene—the old root and delivering his Samuel Weller philosophy, and the horse dozing nearby.

THE mandarin smiled, and presently the subject was changed to the bolshevism running rife in the northern provinces. Art was not again mentioned that evening.

Upon the following morning, Toptit went into the city. He had attended one of the great American universi-THE mandarin Wing, who lived in a ties to which had tome also certain charming old temple-suburb of alert young Chinese under the Boxer Directing his 'rikisha to the South

every two years or so he sold a piece Gate road, in the native city, Toptit of this. It was like pulling a tooth. alighted and entered a wholesale es-Wing had once been a diplomat in tablishment where cottons and silks man, with cultivated appreciation of occidental things, combined with pas- prietor and was ushered to an upsionate love for the artistry of his stairs office, where he was presently

"I got your letter," said Toptit hauling out his pipe as he sat down, various classes of dealers. Some ship "and I came right along. I must mitation junk to interior decorators, thank you for the tip-that screen

is a wonder!" "Good! Old Wing will sell it to

"Not yet." Toptit smiled wryly "Crayton is after it. And there seems to be trouble in the home. Now, old man, I'm here for help."

"I'm darned glad!" exclaimed the yellow man beamingly. "The more glance at the street around, and conhelp I can give, the gladder I'll be. Looks to me as though the Japs had old Wing in a bad mess-perhaps

"Rather," and Toptit smiled. "You mentioned the mandarin's daughter

thing-

in your letter-The other nodded soberly. disappeared yesterday." "What!" Toptit sat up. "Why, Wing never hinted at such

"Politeness, my dear fellow-courtesy to a guest would not allow him to be troubled with the worries of his host. She's been attending the Women's Medical School here in the She disappeared yesterday; that's all.' Toptit stared at his informant and

frowned. Kidnapped?" "Call it that for lack of proof. Do you know what will happen? Today

The young Chinaman made a weary gesture. "Because I was hoping to

why this astute young man had told and why-

"Your friend Crayton is in town," "The devil! See here, do you know where the girl-Miss Tsing-is held

prisoner?" The other nodded slowly. "Then," exploded Toptit angrily, "why don't you go get her? What

were rioting in their quarter, would assess tremendous damages against the province, would make our country give them new concessions! Oh, you ought to know how the game is a Chinaman, and if I raise my hand so I asked for you." against a Jap to defend my life or my honor-there's hell to pay for with rage. my country. I am a son of Han-

that's all." There was a frightful despondency in his words.

"Damn it!" said Toptit, and rose to his feet. His pipe was shoved into while." his pocket. "Where is that girl held prisoner?"

The other smiled bitterly. "Don" try it. If you were an Englishman, you might get away with anything, but you're an American. Everybody knows that Americans can be killed with impunity. Everybody knows that nothing would be done except per hans a presidential note or two---

"You be darned!" said Toptit calmly. The other told him.

The river Min Kiang divides old Fuchow from the foreign settlement. Toptit sent his 'rikisha down the long my cousin. My real name is---" fishmongers' street that leads to the bridge, then alighted and dismissed it. His long-legged figure strode leisurely across the great stone bridge, and before him was the foreign settlement. Toptit did not go on the club on the

hill, nor did he turn to the right toward the consulates. Instead, he self at Toptit and his big fist shot turned to the left and entered the crowded business quarter. Though there are no distinct groupings of forigners in Fuchow, the Japanese largely predominate south of the custom house. With them, too, congregate many natives who are Japanese subjects-and hence immune to Chinese law. In China it is very handy to be a Japanese subject.

Toptit walked along with a noteook in one hand and a pencil in the other. He was quite oblivious to the ing. He appeared to be in no hurry. He would scribble a word or two tinue his course. He appeared dreamy

absorbed.

As a matter of fact, he was much your friend Crayton is behind it pleased with what he was writing. "It's not a bad conceit." he mur mured. "Old Chang Mow sitting with his paint pots and scroll of silk, and the syce standing chewing a straw with one foot propped up on a tree root, and the artist listening to a lecture on how he ought to paint, "Hell! This must be the place, eh? Confound that Crayton!"

> He abruptly closed his notebook and oved it into his pocket.

He had left the Yamato Kwan be hind. Just ahead of him was a fairly respectable house-respectable on the

at something else. He was quite aware that an instant Crayton's clothes. of hesitation would prove fatal. He upon him. A look, a gesture, would of satisfaction. A large automatic

"Well, come on in! That you, To kima Hase?"

"No," said Toptit, standing in the

The door softly closed behind him, Crayton was caught abruptly and off his guard. He had been reclining me ten thousand yen for it," said him of the wonderful screen, why he in a long chair, sucking a cheroot and had been brought here to Fuchow, reading a French magazine. Beside bottle and a syphon. His fleshy figure was clad in dirty white sllk pajamas His jaw dropped as he stared in

credulously at Toptit. Then: "The devil! You!" "I'm not," said Toptit gently. "A least, I hope I'm not any devil. No don't get up, I beg of you!" His hand clutched the pipe in his

pocket and pointed it. To Crayton innocent." t looked terribly like a revolver pro that the Japanese would say that we truding from the white jacket. Crayton relaxed in his chair. "You cursed fool! I s'pose you

came asking for me and the boys thought you were a friend of mine." "I suppose so," assented Toptit. "I played, Toptit! You're no fool. I am couldn't very well ask for Miss Tsing,

The heavy face of Crayton mottle "Why-why-

"If I were you, Crayton, I'd be afraid of apoplexy. Take it quietly, now. I really ought to shoot you-I've considered doing it for a long

Crayton turned a shade whiter at this. The deliberate voice of Toptit must have frightened him. The next words of his visitor sent his eyes wide

"You know, Crayton," went on Toptit in his horribly gentle way. "Toptit isn't my real name at all-any more than yours is Crayton." His gray eyes rested speculatively upon the large man. Their absence of all roots of their family trees are buried enmity lent a fearful emphasis to his ext words.

"You married a girl in Chicago two years ago-and deserted her. She was played around Plymouth Rock soos war. Crayton came out of his chair in blind spasm of fear and rage, a bellow on his lips. Toptit moved slightly under the attack. Crayton was abso lutely beside himself, frantic with the comprehension that Toptit's words had brought him. He launched him-

But Toptit calmly kicked him of lost his balance. At that instant Toptit drew back and delivered another kick with the utmost deliberation. His leather toe caught Crayton behind the ear, and the bulk of the big settled in Baltimore, Md., before the Chickasaw schools. man shivered on the floor.

hate to use my hands on you just now. Besides, you never understand my methods. I ought to kill you, but Kansas is seventh in direct descent particular good, nor me either." uttered a moan.

"Oh, you criticize the gramma

fort to rise. Toptit came forward and and of Hartford, Conn., first secretary is a side issue, but whose main busi-"Stay put until I'm done with you! Hello! Your friends heard the row."

\* \* \* \*

PATTER of feet in the hall. be a mere rooming house. Tant't upon Toptit. He glanced around gave it one sharp glance, then looked quickly. A cheap dresser stood in

Toptit went to the clothes, caught knew that eyes were unobtrusively at them, and uttered an exclamation New Jersey in 1720. pistol fell into his hand. He glanced Kansas is a nephew of the famous the case.

mention them. Each man knew that mandarins who had owned the screen. What can he do? No Chinaman dares entrance he suddenly turned, and in The deafening explosion was echoed the other man knew, however. Toptit expressed his admiration, and to infringe the sovereignty of the two strides had his hand on the door- by a shrill scream from the corridor At dinner that evening discussion

"Business has nothing to the mandarin discussed the screen Japanese quarter. The mandarin discussed the screen in the dindo with romance," observed Toptit looked at Crayton's again fell upon the screen in the dinmight know avective them. The mandarin knob. He opened it, stepped inside, outside. Toptit looked at Crayton's again fell upon the screen in the dinshaking figure, and his wide lips ing room. parted in a smile.

cently. "The first four read 'Ku Mo San Mow'—Old Syce and Traveling Horse. The others give the name of Horse. The others give the name of the said calming. That's straight where to find her, he might know exactby who carried her away—and what can obtained entrance. Two slantbe do? Just nothing. That's straight where already in the hell.

A N instant later he would not have to find her, he might know exactby who carried her away—and what can obtained entrance. Two slantbe do? Just nothing. That's straight with so called reductions in the ability murder you for it, too. If I were a poem to me—or perhaps I should on all the different luxurys and the high cost of liveing namely you read. "They'll blame you for that, Cray- today," observed Toptit, drawing forth eyed men were already in the halleyed men were already in the hall- you, I'd get away in a hurry—but not say a verse."

way, hands under their robes. His by the door. If you come out that The mandarin chuckled. "I appre- reduction and they has been time the artist, Chang Mow or Jung Moh—
would simply augh at him. A Jap can
a Manchu name, I think. The artist
would simply augh at him. A Jap can
entry had halted their advance. Topdoor, I'll shoot you. Understand ciate the distinction, Mr. Toptit," he
enough under the new scale of prices
way, hands under their robes. His
by the door. If you come out that
door, I'll shoot you. Understand ciate the distinction, Mr. Toptit," he
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ciate the distinction, Mr. Toptit, "he
can be seen that the robes way, hands under the robes way, hands unde tit regarded them with a keen scru- Don't forget. I'll be outside with Miss answered. "I have heard that you are so as a person can figure out what cards is all laid out on the table it tiny and shoved his right hand into Tsing." his pocket. The menace of this gas-

Toptit opened the door and stepped out into the corridor. It was empty, thinking about that old syce over I can't speak for nobody only myself, and grocerys is down to where they "What you want?" demanded one except for a dead man who lay hud there, and it suggested something to but from what I can judge so far I was at before the war, but take your dled outside. He closed the door me. If I might bore you with the would estimate that in a year's time gal down town and try and buy the "Crayton," said Toptit. "Where is again and ignored the dead man. He fragmentalso ignored the hubbub from below

and the shouts from the street. Turning to the right, he knocked with sincerity. "By all means." other beckoned. "You come," he said. at the adjoining door. There was no Toptit followed his guide to a stair- reply and he entered. He found a the notebook. "We must imagine bare room containing only a cot and Chang Mow at work, you know. The yellow man knocked at a door, a chair. In the chair was tied a Chiand the voice of Crayton came in a nese girl, whose eyes rounded largely "By the roadside sat Chang Mow, upon him. She was gagged.

Toptit. He put away his automatic and opened a pocketknife as he advanced to her side. "Don't worry, As he propped his foot on a gnarled brown roo Miss Tsing. I come from your father and your flance to bring you home. You won't get there, however, if you faint or indulge in other feminine Now, if I were you, I'd change that tree. hysterics. Just keep cool and follow

He began removing her bonds, talking fluently as he did so.

"I't all bosh about orientals being deep and crafty. They're just as firmly convinced that white men are it. And the Japs aren't all bad men, either-not by a long shot! It's all in knowing how to handle them. I sent a note to the Jap consul about half an hour ago. If my coolie delivered it, which I think he did, the consul will be along here at any moment now. Able to stand up, are you? For heaven's sake, don't faint!"

Miss Tsing stood up, a bit weakly. "I shan't faint," she said, and smiled at Toptit.

to downstairs-"But we can't do that!" she exclaimed, with a sudden pallor. "Don't

you hear the shouts and-" "Nonsense! Just leave it to me," said Toptit confidently. With a gesture of despair, she took

the dead man, and came to the head latitude, don't you think?" of the stairs. From here they had a Toptit regarded his host with some view of the entrance below. Two suspicion, but the mandarin remained Japanese were standing there, shout- gravely dignified. Suddenly Wing ing something to the outside air. They turned to him. saw Toptit and Miss Tsing and hur-

you got here in time, Mr. Consul--" "What's this?" ejaculated the con- it." "You-you accuse my country-

nan of kidnaping a young lady---" glad to say. The culprit was one of for a thousand dollars-Mexican." my own countrymen-a fellow named have this young lady and myself escorted back to the native city. Your co-operation in this matter will reflect great credit upon you and will remove all charges against your countrymen, who are, of course, entirely

ing how to handle them.

TOPTIT escorted Miss Tsing to the book with an exclamation of annov Women's Medical School and left ance. her. Then he went to a curio shop! near the south gate and bought sevreturned to the suburban home of the ing fun about it after I read it?" mandarin, Wing, and found a new

tmosphere about the place. Wing made no reference to his

"My dear sir, the pleasure will be tremendous," averred the mandarin "Very well," said Toptit, opening

"I was thinking about that screen

And with cunning fingers la'd "Ah, Miss Tsing, I believe!" said His ink and paint to the silk-strip quaint, While the dapple-gray dozed in the shade.

The critic's art essayed.

And discoursed on the painter's trade: 'I've always had an idea,' quoth he, "That I had the soul of an artist in me;

By the roadside sat Chang Mow. Craftsman of paint and ink: He limned a bough as he best knew how, And his left eye closed in a wink."

Toptit cleared his throat. You understand," he said apolodeep and crafty, only we don't realize getically, "the allusion is to the common quality of human nature which

> The mandarin smiled and lifted his hand protestingly. "My dear sir, I understand perfectly The verse is a gem of words, an exquisite fancy! If I might suggest a slight change in the final line-

"By all means," hastened Toptit eagerly. "Instead of saying 'his left eye, why not make it 'his slant eye'? Don't "Now, if you'll take my arm, we'll you think this would be a little more general, a trifle less exact and pro

> saic?" "Certainly. But you said that Chang Mow was a Manchu. There fore, he would scarcely have almond "Of course," agreed the mandarin,

stroking his wispy gray beard. "Still, They went into the corridor, passed the art of poesy has a very catholic

"You must accept a small and undetails about this generous action of the govt. was printed in this generous action of the govt. was printed in the papers soldiers appeared, a frock-coated man behind them.

So when I says a wile ago that I details about this generous action of the govt. was printed in the papers the govt. was printed in the papers and I remember one thing it said was nearby temple, and have sent for it. "Good afternoon," said Toptit, as he It is a hslang yi, an insence urn, and that on acct. of they being about 100 ing a joke which I guess they don't dood afternoon, said Toptit, as he it is a usual yi, an insence urn, and million people in the U. S. and the nobody laugh themself to death over

"I shall be indeed honored," said Toptit in delight. "Why-" "And if you know of any one who consul, that was all a mistake. The cares to buy this humble screen," the note I sent you was written in error. mandarin waved his taper fingers to-Your countrymen are blameless, I'm ward the screen, "I shall gladly sell it

gate fully, and you'll find this to be TOPTIT started. His bid had been a the case. I'd suggest also that you tended. However, if the mandarin which the govt. pronounced tax free. wanter silver, all right!

"I'll write a check immediately," he responded. That night in his own room Toptit frowned portentously to himself. He was distinctly worried, troubled, uneasy over some hidden matter. At length he drew out his notebook and once more read over the verse to him-

"Darn it!" he said. "I don't believe he thought this poem was worth a He sadly shook his head as he

elimbed into bed. (Copyright, 1922.)

## CAPITAL SIDELIGHTS

N Congress are a number of men Susan B. Anthony, equal auffrage who, in addition to holding their pioneer.

by right of ancestry, because the more than 250 years. nation. Forebears of some of them wine long prior to the revolutionary after the Pilgrims landed and parfeast with which the Indians were regaled. In the "Life and Letters of tory of the English Colonies in America" Senator Henry Cabot Lodge, limitation of armament, has written cestors took in the early days of the

nation. Senator Joseph Irwin France of Maryland is proud that his ancestors revolutionary war. His great-great "I've just written a very decent grandfather was Capt. Thomas Boyle, verse," observed Toptit, "and I really who commanded the Chasseur and Comet in the war of 1812.

Representative Edward C. Little of sight of a white man actually walk-Dumfrieshire, Scotland, to Tinter cestry back to the Pilgrim and Puri Crayton, who was half-conscious, Falls, N. J., more than 200 years ago. Seven of his ancestors were commissioned officers in the revolution and there?" said Toptit reflectively. "Well, two were killed. He has had ancesperhaps that is true. I should have tors in the war of 1812, the Indian THE some-months-ago argument said 'or,' but I did not stop to think. wars, fighting King Philip at Qua-I always stumble over that negative boag, and in every other conflict proposition. But the point is that that disturbed the peace of this na- W. Riddick of Montana is the only killing you would give me no satis- tion. His wife is also a descendant man in Congress whose primary and faction. You are a rotten coward at of the famous Steeles, who fought only business or profession or source heart, anyway. Where's Miss Tsing " in 1812 and the battle of Bennington. of livelihood outside of Congress is Crayton jerked one hand. "Next She is ninth in descent from John farming. There are a number of othcom," he mumbled. He made an ef- Steele, founder of Cambridge, Mass., ers in Congress with whom farming Three of their ancestorsisland battery."

the corner, beside it a chair bearing New Jersey is descended from Rev. undistracted. Now he's in Congress

twenty-three years in its legisla- some profession. Years ago in In-Steele, Taylor and Weeks-were at Congress, but he sold out his paper knocking at the door, a chatter- one of sixteen who volunteered for Montana, thirty miles from a rail- has got it in for me personly as they's whistle has proved a most valuable Japanese characters announcing it to ing of sibilant voices outside broke in "the forlorn hope assault on the road, and mail by a stage coach once nothing which they have took the tax time dispenser. Residents in the im-

Representative Albert W. Jefferis of Nebraska boasts that his foredeep in the colonial soil of this new fathers settled along the old Brandy-

resentative Charles D. Carter, both abboriginal inhabitants in their veins. in the international conference on His mother was Narcisse Chisholm of of the Indian territory, attended the Indian school at Tishomingo and later was superintendent of the

Representative Charles F. Curry grandfather was one of the pioneers

folk fighting with the Minute Men. \* \* \* \*

out the fact that Representative Carl Louisburg. Jonathan Taylor, con- there and settled with his young fam- that was printed in the list I seen, tric clock, which is guaranteed not gressman and brigadier general, was ily on a government reservation in why it looks like the treasury dept. to vary five seconds in a year, this

much cheaper it is to live since the 1st. of the yr. on amound of money they are going to don't mean nothing. Like for inst. "Well," resumed Toptit, "I was be able to save by same. Well friends the rumor goes around that meats

suppose you have noticed how breeches, dollies, church bells, etc.

high cost of liveing, namely you read about them in the paper and get all the reduced schedule will enable me dinner for 5 smackers. Fat chance



"THE REDUCED SCHEDULE WILL ENABLE ME TO LAY ASIDE BETWEEN 18 AND 20 CENTS."

and 20 cts.

It was dureing the holidays that the So when I says a wile ago that I me great pleasure if you will accept reduction in taxes was going to same. amount to 700 million dollars, why therefore everybody in the country would be \$7.00 to the good. I was not amongst those that thought maybe small bills, but I did expect to notice EMINENT naturalists have pointed a slight change for the better in regards to the price of different articles active creatures show strange helpwhich a man buys to enjoy Ife. That lessness under certain conditions. is, till a few days ago when I seen a Place a vulture in a pen six or eight thousand gold, or had been so in- printed list of some of the articles feet square entirely open at the top

> plaster a tax of \$100.00 a drink on this iucios beverage without hearing a vulture will remain a prisoner for

a squawk from me. The 2 easiest habits I ever swore off was soda water and cubebs and after a man gets past 30 yrs. old the bear meneral small but worthy objects which hang! He didn't even ask to have a tion of either one is libel to upset attracted him. Later in the day he copy of it. I wonder if he was mak- the stomach and bring spots in front the top, but persists in trying to find of the eyes. The next item I come acrost was eye glasses and it said they had been

taxed 5 per cent but now you could level surface. These winged mammal get them at the old time prices. Well are remarkably nimble in their flight suppose when this become known they was a wild rush of eye glass for many hours at a time without fanciers to the goggle district but rest, but if placed on a floor or flat personly my visual orbs retain their ground they are utterly unable to use boyish vim though the ear lobes and their wings. The only thing a bat nasal appendage may be the worst for wear.

the taxes was loped off of was umbrellas costing over \$4.00, fans costing over \$1.00 and house coats or smokeing jackets over \$10.00.

I come from a family that knowed continue indefinitely in duress with enough to stay in out of the rain and they was a law that everybody had to own one it would take a wonder-

tickets, and when I seen that one I says here is where a person may be able to save a few dollars, the air, looking upward for a place but reading on further you come to to get out. where it said that the tax was only

R. fares and Pullman tickets? Well friends I only expect to make one trip this yr. and the tickets for same was boughten in December before the tax was took off. According to the experts the govt. will pay me back the differente if I write and ask them for same, but I have heard about other

the only shows that you can get into

All and all judgeing from the items inst. circus tents and stone crushers

to lay aside somewhere between 18 unlest one of the oysters makes her sick.

Great Neck, Jan. 20.

## Bird Helplessness.

and the bird will be as absolutely a

prisoner as if it were hermetically sealed in the inclosure. ITEM No. 1 was soda water which I This is due to the fact that vultures am told they has been a 10 per never begin a flight from the ground cent tax on same for several yrs. but without starting on a run of three which they have now took the tax or four yards. If they cannot have off same. Well friends they could that preliminary run they either cannot or will not attempt to fly, and so

> life in a jail with no top. So with the bumblebee. One of these lively insects dropped into a goblet or tumbler will remain there always unless taken out, because it never notices the means of escape at some way out through the sides of

the glass near the bottom. A bat cannot rise from a perfectly when once on the wing and can fly helplessly and doubtless painfully Well, amongst the other items that along until it reaches some trifling elevation from which it can throw itself into the air. Then at once it

is off like a flash. As a vulture will not escape from Well friends I am glad to say that an open pen, so a wild turkey will an easy avenue of escape available. One of these birds penned op never of escape. Capturing wild turkeys by pen tripping is made possible by their

> A pen built on logs and inclosed or every side and roofed, the only entrance being an opening beneath the bottom log on one side, is all that is necessary to entrap the otherwise wary and watchful wild turkey. The girds, eagerly following a luring train up through the opening under the log and into the pen. The instant a turkey finds itself in the pen it knows it has got itself into a scrape and seeks to escape, but it pays no atwhich it entered, and persistently dashes around the pen, its head in

The old-time pen-trapping turkey off free admissions or admissions of hunter never had any anxiety about 10 cts. and less. I don't know how his game escaping from the trap, and conditions is around other parts of he had only to wait a sufficient time the country, but here in Great Neck to find it filled with the foolish birds, all with their necks stretched fuil length, looking for a place in the roof through which to take wing, and ignoring the big opening under the log that let them in.

## A Triple Whistle.

SOME time ago there was put into use by a big electric railway company a giant triple whistle. Four times a day this mammoth whistle money and when they got it they was is bown and it can be heard for ten miles, north, south, east and west.

In being connected with an elecmediate neighborhood of the power in the paper to print the whole list, big whistle was first talked of. They but I bet I could pretty near guess expected to hear only shrill and obsome of the other articles, like for jectionable sounds every time the big affair was blown. But no one day necessities like hand cuffs, of discord at whistle time.

Representative Francis F. Patterseats by right of the suffrage of son, jr., of New Jersey comes of peothe people back home, also hold them ple who have lived in New Jersey for

of California because of his maternal

of that state. Representative Alanson B. Hough ton of New York, who is to be am bassador to Germany, traces his antan days and had many of his kin-

kicked him again, this time in the of the Connecticut Colony and ness is banking, manufacturing or people who the govt. owed them diana they wanted to run Riddick for so old that the shock killed them.

> a week. He went there to get away off which I have got any use for, Sensior Joseph S. Frelinghuysen of from politics and enjoy home life though of course they wasn't room house anticipated trouble when the Theodorus J. Frelinghuysen, who and chairman of the publicity comcame from Holland and settled in mittee of the republican congressional committee. Riddick put himself Representative Dan R. Anthony of through college by setting type at and ear muffs and maybe such every has had an opportunity to complain

ticipated in the first Thanksgiving of Oklahoma, can trace back their ful salesman to make me invest as ancestry in this country to before the high as \$4.00 in same and as for fans white men landed, because both of they's always a breeze on Long Is-George Cabot" and in the "Short His- them have the blood of the original land, and if they wasn't we would try and manage to stir one up with Senator Owen records that he is of a good old fashion palm leaf. As far today representing the United States "Scotch-Irish and Indian ancestry." as smokeing jackets or house coats is concerned, I would like to catch a the Cherokee nation. Representative member of my household spending of corn, are led along to the pen and the shin. Crayton uttered a howl and unostentatiously of the part his an- Carter was born in the Choctaw na- any such sum as \$10.00 on a garment tion, lived on the western frontier which they wouldn't nobody but a male movie actress dast put on.

WELL another item was theater

for 10 cts. and less is mystery shows. The mystery is where are they. But how about the reduction in R. about "dirt farmers" has brought